

Poulston's American Daily Advertiser
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Augusta, Georgia, December 19

On Monday last, about half past 2 o'clock in the morning a severe shock of an earthquake was felt in this place, which continued by the best account to have been obtained, between one and two minutes - some persons think much longer - but considering the awful nature of the occurrence and the hour of it, we are aware that its duration could not be accurately determined, without noticing its commencement and termination by a correct time piece. It was preceded by a hollow rumbling noise like distant thunder, or as some one described it, like the burning out of a chimney -- A tremulous motion of the earth followed, which increased in violence, till the agitation of the dwelling houses became considerably alarming. The motion of the dwelling house of the Editor of this paper, was somewhat like the rocking of a cradle - the family were awoken by it, and were equally surprised and alarmed. Similar sensations and effects were produced in many other families in town, and in some instances persons supposed their chimnies were falling, and in others they were apprehensive for the safety of their dwellings. So severe a shock of an earthquake we believe was never before experienced here, or as far as we know, in United States. Its course could not be determined we believe from our own sensations we thought the house rocked from north to south; and that the east and west ends only experienced a tremulous motion. Some persons coming with their wagons four or five miles from town, state that they were alarmed at the motion of the earth and that the trees and bushes were violently agitated thereby. There was no wind during the concussion - the atmosphere was somewhat hazy, moist, and vapourish. About three quarters of an hour after the first shock subsided, a second but much slighter one was felt, and at fifteen minutes before 8 in the morning, a third one occurred. A friend living about ten miles westward of this town informs us that he was alarmed between the hours of two and three on Monday morning, by a tremendous noise, resembling the falling of heavy bodies on the roof of his house and falling to the ground, and he immediately discovered his bed to be in great agitation, and that the whole house was shook, and windows rattled as if operated by a violent wind -- We have not heard how far it extended in other directions.

Herald.